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13 September 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, Research and Reports
FROM: Chief, Geographic Research
SUBJECT: GRA Activity Report for the Month of August 1960

A. Major Research and Technical Support Activity

1. The Geography Division completed and disseminated two Geographic Intelligence Reports /GR 60-2, Expansion of Soviet Railroad Network Between 1950 and 1960, and GR 60-3, Paraguay (Parts I and IV) and thirteen Geographic Support Projects. Four of the Support Projects were done for DD/P, and two were contributions to the OCI Weekly.

2. The Cartography Division accepted requests for 161 maps and charts and completed 216. Among the maps and charts completed, the following are particularly noteworthy: (a) Three major city plans -- Riga, Saratov, and Ventspils -- were completed for DD/P, and three others produced by [REDACTED] were scheduled through reproduction; (b) Four [REDACTED] trip maps and two RD/C briefs were prepared for St/I/R; and (c) A Terrain and Transportation Wall Map of China was printed and placed in the Map Library for distribution. With the completion of the latter map, D/GC has now produced wall maps on China, Africa, the USSR, and the Middle East. It is anticipated that the wall map of the Caribbean now in progress will be completed and published before January 1961.

3. The Map Library Division forwarded 35,339 items to requesters in response to 2,360 requests for maps, related geographic publications, and reference information. Requests for maps of Laos, the Republic of the Congo, and Cuba were heavy during the month. Two large requests were handled for the White House. The Director's Office was supplied with maps of Laos and the Republic of the Congo, and with GRA-produced Wall Maps of Africa and the USSR. Approximately 700 map sheets were sent to the Office of Training for use in the Junior Officer Training Course.

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4. Significant items received by the Map Library Division from foreign sources included new maps on Africa (a 1959 map on Mozambique, a 1960 administrative map of Algeria, and a 1960 communications map of Algeria) and topographic sheets on Indian areas near the northern border. In addition, a copy of "Landforms, Soils and Land Use of the Indus Plains, West Pakistan" published by the Government of Pakistan and compiled by the Photographic Surveys Corporation, Toronto, was acquired. The report includes two 25-sheet map series, at the scale of one inch to the mile, one for land use and one for land forms. Twenty-four additional maps are contained in the report, classified CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN/NO DISSEM ABROAD/LIMITED. As part of a continuing operation that is being closely followed and supported by GL/S, thirteen new 1:25,000 sheets of East Germany have been received.

5. The major efforts of the Special Collection Support Branch, D/GL, continued to be directed towards the support of [REDACTED] 25X1A9a
TDY in Europe. In this connection, background information on Bloc attendees at the Geological Congress in Copenhagen, operational support information on the planned attendance of many individuals from the Sino-Soviet Bloc at the Photogrammetry Congress in London, and support information to be used during [REDACTED] were provided. 25X1A6a
In the course of providing this support, more than twenty separate contacts were made with DD/P personnel. 25X1A9a

6. A sizable rush request was accepted by the Cartography Division from DD/P/WH to help prepare the 1:50,000 map series on Cuba for situation room use. In addition to preparing the 250 sheets for lamination, 159 of the all-color version were sent to reproduction for black and white printing. The Cartography Division also received a request for reproduction materials on 16 maps produced by D/GC from CINCPAC via the Map Library. The request included NIS maps, such as Chapter I Summary Maps and various miscellaneous maps produced during the past few years.

B. Planning and Development

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1. The GRA proposal, initiated by [REDACTED] that a scholarship in oceanography for a Soviet scientist be offered in exchange for a scholarship at the Novosibirsk Institute of Geodesy, Photogrammetry, and Cartography for a U.S. scientist was turned down by the Scientific Intelligence Committee [REDACTED]

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2. Acting Chiefs, D/GG and D/GL worked out a procedure, on an experimental basis, for including appraisal of significant items in the D/GL Weekly Acquisitions List of Maps for Foreign Areas. The procedure will emphasize genuine selectivity in determination of items to be appraised, and the appraisal itself will feature brevity and "real meat" -- little or no description; telegraphic style text will be used; and items to be appraised will be limited to foreign-produced maps and atlases.

3. A formal memorandum incorporating NIS Chapter IX Subcommittee proposals on revision of the NIS Chapter IX was forwarded to the NIS Committee on 18 August. This memorandum was reviewed at the NIS Committee Meeting on 30 August; the Committee agreed in general with the conclusions reached, but has asked the Subcommittee to re-examine certain of its recommendations.

25X1X7 4. [REDACTED] presented GG/F with comprehensive requests for information on South Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. As the requests were for very detailed information and of the nature of intelligence held by the Department of Engineer Intelligence, [REDACTED] it was suggested that the [REDACTED] Army Attache be requested to submit the questionnaires to ACSI for levying upon [REDACTED] However, GG/F gave some information on the canals of South Vietnam, and will discuss possible sources with him. 25X1X7

25X6A 5. Copies of the long-awaited Rumanian physical geography, with the folder of maps, have been received by D/GL. The companion volume on economic geography has been published and copies will probably be picked up by [REDACTED] The importance of these volumes is felt to be great enough to justify a review in the Geographic Research Aid series. 25X1X7

25X1A9a 6. Satisfactory progress on the [REDACTED] project to prepare 17 Special Projection Charts for use in missile and communications plotting was recorded during the month. As of this date, sketches for 5 equidistance projections have been approved and compilation is in progress at AGS, 4 additional centers have been selected and sketches requested of AGS, and 3 are awaiting selection by the Office of Communications. Of the Gnomonic maps, one has been approved and is being constructed and the second is being reviewed, as are the 3 stereographic projections. Detailed drafting specifications and reproduction plans are being prepared for submission to AGS in the near future. 25X1A5a1

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7. [REDACTED] conferred with GG/F on 31 August to ascertain the Branch's capability to support a project to indicate the probable location of atomic reactors in China. A formal request with detailed requirements will be submitted through channels if OSI approves the project.

8. In view of the probable interest aroused by the Pakistan-Indian settlement of the Indus River dispute, some thought has been given by GG/F to the writing of an article which would attempt to clarify the rather complex irrigation water-rights picture involved in the situation.

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9. Discussions were held with Chief/G on the possible temporary assignment of [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 25X1A9a would be reassigned to the Europe Branch during the period. The whole matter is now in the hands [REDACTED] 25X1C4a

10. Work to date on FN 63.1824, Plotting Missile-Related Activities, indicates the Soviets probably have under construction a ring of SAM sites around Berlin, and there are indications of activity related to longer range missiles also.

11. In support of the D/GC collection effort, the Europe Branch, D/GG, will make an evaluation of the intelligence utility of the East Germany 1:25,000 series thus far procured. One purpose of the evaluation -- which will be in considerable detail -- will be to bring out the value of the set in the reconstruction and projection of the Soviet military grid. The final product probably will be in the Geographic Research Aid series.

12. The first of the 1:500,000 maps of West China was received from ACIC and modification for operational use by DD/P/FE is under way and should be completed during September. As additional maps are completed by ACIC, D/GC will be required to spend some time modifying each for field use.

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15. Several conversations were held with Mr. Seelig, National Science Foundation by D/CL personnel regarding details of publishing the "Acquisitions List of Antarctic Cartographic Materials".

C. Significant Outside Contacts and Activities

1. Admiral David Tyree, Commander, U.S. Support Forces in Antarctica, requested and was given a briefing on the latest developments in Soviet activities and their future plans that would be pertinent in the planning of U.S. operations, especially for the long term. It was agreed that [REDACTED] would be available later for a meeting with Admiral Denison, CINCLANT, at Norfolk.

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2. [REDACTED] CL/S, met with personnel of ACSI, Department of the Army, Mapping and Geodesy Division, to discuss possible U.S. Government participation with a private U.S. contractor on a large photo-mapping project in Iraq. Further developments concerning this project, which involves international competitive bidding for mapping of much of Iraq, will be reported as information becomes available. The Covert Action Staff of DD/P is being kept informed of developments.

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3. Chief, D/GC, had an informal meeting with officials of the Army Map Service to discuss the coordination of City Plans production in the Intelligence Community and was briefed at ESPA (Engineers Special Project Area).

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4. Captain Lurtsena, Turner Air Force Base, visited GL/S on the recommendation of AFCIN 3T. With the assistance of D/GG, he was provided with information on Soviet mapping plans and capabilities for use in a staff study under way in the 1370th Photo Mapping Wing. This is part of an attempt to justify the procurement of KC-135's for photography and other reconnaissance purposes. It was recommended that Col. Humbrecht, Commanding Officer of the 1370th, consult with [REDACTED] on his next visit to Washington for additional briefing and support, if required. 25X1A9a

5. Three Department of Agriculture employees who will attend the International Soils Congress were briefed by [REDACTED] GL/S, on 25X1A9a Sino-Soviet Bloc map intelligence requirements. A special request was made of one of the sources, who is prominent in the field of soils science, to obtain the original copies of the Russian maps on display. The sources will be debriefed in September. [REDACTED] also briefed a member of the [REDACTED] on requirements for specific Russian topographic information. 25X1A9a

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[REDACTED] of GG/F gave lectures at FSI. [REDACTED] have completed their part in the present series, and [REDACTED] will give the second part of his lectures in early September. Also, [REDACTED] gave a lecture for the Sabotage Course [REDACTED]

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7. [REDACTED] GG/F, informally briefed FE/Korea personnel on his activities [REDACTED] with emphasis on the mission assigned to him prior to his departure from Washington. 25X1A9a

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8. The Chief and Deputy Chief, GC/C, returned 15 August from a 2-week training assignment at a [REDACTED] Enroute, [REDACTED] stopped at ACIC, St. Louis, to review progress on the preparation of a series of maps on Western China (1:500,000). 25X1A6a

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9. The returning [REDACTED] who is being assigned to [REDACTED] was briefed and debriefed by GRA components. He was informed of GL/S's interest in the [REDACTED] for use in China and of the [REDACTED] 25X6B

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10. [REDACTED] spent some time in GL/S discussing activities related to East German targets. He is returning to [REDACTED] and will have a continuing interest in the Branch's support. 25X1A6a

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11. Major Smith and Mr. Leonard, AFCIN 3T, were briefed on GL/S's project and delivered the Air Force contribution to the China guide, including a map showing specific priority targets. Owing to the classification, the latter will receive only a limited distribution to DD/P, and will not be included with the published guide.

D. Miscellaneous

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1. [REDACTED] Deputy Chief of GC/S, returned to duty from a two-year tour of duty with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] will assume duties in GC/S after completing the "processing in" activities. 25X1A9a

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2. Department of State personnel have informed [REDACTED] GC/P, that large segments of his study [REDACTED] and the accompanying maps are being used in [REDACTED] State has received laudatory comments from its staff [REDACTED] on the value of these items in conjunction with [REDACTED] 25X6A

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Distribution:

- 1 - AD/FR
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